



**CEQA EXEMPTION / NEPA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
DETERMINATION FORM (rev. 06/2022)**

Project Information

Project Name (if applicable): Culvert Replacement

DIST-CO-RTE: 10-MPA-49

PM/PM: VAR

EA: 10-1T730

Federal-Aid Project Number: N/A

Project Description

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes replacing three (3) culverts on State Route (SR) 49 in Mariposa County, at postmiles (PM) 12.50, 12.55 and 12.79. Please see continuation sheet for more project location and scope of work information. All work will occur within existing Caltrans Right of Way. The purpose of this project is to replace the damaged and failing culverts. The project is needed to ensure motorist safety over these drainages.

Caltrans CEQA Determination (Check one)

- ☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans is not the CEQA Lead Agency
☐ **Not Applicable** – Caltrans has prepared an IS or EIR under CEQA

Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, the project is:

- ☐ **Exempt by Statute.** (PRC 21080[b]; 14 CCR 15260 et seq.)
☒ **Categorically Exempt. Class 1.** (PRC 21084; 14 CCR 15300 et seq.)
 ☒ No exceptions apply that would bar the use of a categorical exemption (PRC 21084 and 14 CCR 15300.2). See the [SER Chapter 34](#) for exceptions.
☐ **Covered by the Common Sense Exemption.** This project does not fall within an exempt class, but it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment (14 CCR 15061[b][3].)

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Elizabeth Hummel

Print Name

Elizabeth Hummel

Signature

07/07/2026

Date

Project Manager

Edujie I. Imoisili

Print Name

Edujie Imoisili Imoisili

Signature

7/8/2026

Date



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Caltrans NEPA Determination (Check one)

☒ **Not Applicable**

Caltrans has determined that this project has no significant impacts on the environment as defined by NEPA, and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). See [SER Chapter 30](#) for unusual circumstances. As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an EA or EIS under NEPA and is included under the following:

☐ **23 USC 326:** Caltrans has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 USC 326 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated April 18, 2022, executed between FHWA and Caltrans. Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under:

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(c): activity (c)(Enter activity number)**

☐ **23 CFR 771.117(d): activity (d)(Enter activity number)**

☐ **Activity Enter activity number listed in Appendix A of the MOU between FHWA and Caltrans**

☐ **23 USC 327:** Based on an examination of this proposal and supporting information, Caltrans has determined that the project is a Categorical Exclusion under 23 USC 327. The environmental review, consultation, and any other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 USC 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 27, 2022, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

Senior Environmental Planner or Environmental Branch Chief

Print Name

Signature

Date

Project Manager/ DLA Engineer

Print Name

Signature

Date

Date of Categorical Exclusion Checklist completion (if applicable): N/A

Date of Environmental Commitment Record or equivalent: 6/28/2026

Briefly list environmental commitments on continuation sheet if needed (i.e., not necessary if included on an attached ECR). Reference additional information, as appropriate (e.g., additional studies and design conditions).



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Continuation sheet:

Detailed Scope of Work-

Location # 1 (PM-12.50):

- Remove the existing 18-inch Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) culvert and associated steel pipe inlet structure.
- Replace with a 24-inch Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) equipped with Rubber Gasket Joints (RGJ).
- Install a 3-foot Grated Concrete Pipe (GCP) drop inlet at the inlet.
- Install a 24-inch concrete Flared End Section (FES) at the outlet.
- Regrade and repair the outlet trench to address existing scour conditions and install Rock Slope Protection (RSP) downstream of the outlet.

Location # 2 (PM-12.55):

- Remove the existing 18-inch CSP culvert and associated steel pipe inlet structure.
- Replace with a 24-inch RCP with RGJ.
- Install a 3-foot GCP drop inlet at the inlet.
- There are two 0.7-foot diameter lateral pipes connecting to the inlet from the east and west sides. The 0.7-foot diameter pipes shall be properly connected to the proposed inlet structure to maintain drainage continuity and prevent uncontrolled discharge. If any deficiencies or damage are identified in the field, the affected lateral pipe(s) shall be replaced as necessary to ensure proper system performance.
- Install a 24-inch concrete FES at the outlet.
- Install Rock Slope Protection RSP at the outlet.

Location # 3 (PM-12.79):

- Remove the existing 24-inch CSP and replace it with a 24-inch RCP equipped with RGJ.
- Install a 24-inch concrete FES at the outlet.
- Install approximately RSP) at the outlet.



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General –

- Environmental reevaluation will be required if the scope of the project changes to include additional areas or activities, or if previously unknown cultural or other sensitive resources are discovered. Contact Environmental Office if project changes occur or sensitive resources are discovered.

Cultural –

- If cultural resources are discovered at the job site, do not disturb the resources and immediately:
 1. Stop all work within a 60-foot radius of the discovery
 2. Protect the discovery area
 3. Notify the EngineerThe Department investigates. Do not move cultural materials or take them from the job site. Retain a qualified archeologist to assess the significance of the find. Do not resume work within the discovery area until authorized.
- If human remains are discovered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that further disturbances and activities shall cease in any area or nearby area suspected to overlie remains, and the County Coroner should be contacted. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, if the remains are thought to be Native American, the coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) which will then notify the Most Likely Descendent (MLD). At that time, the landowner will work with the MLD on the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains. Further provisions of PRC 5097.98 are to be followed as applicable.

Hazardous Waste –

- Caltrans Standard Special Provision 7-1.02K(6)(j)(iii) pertaining to earth material containing lead, shall be included in the contract.
- Include SSP 84-9.03B in the construction contract.

Biology –

In order to avoid all potential impacts to protected birds and bats, Standard Special Provision (SSP) 14-6.03A will be included in the project contract as follows:

- If construction will occur during migratory bird season (February 1 – September 30), within 14 days prior to beginning any construction-related activities, a qualified biologist must conduct a pre-construction bird survey. If an active bird nest is observed, a 100-ft buffer will be established around the nest until the young fledged. Buffers will be expanded to 300-ft for active hawk/raptor nests.
- Within 30 days prior to beginning construction-related activities, a qualified biologist must conduct a preconstruction bat survey for roosting bats. If an active bat roost is observed, Caltrans will coordinate with CDFW to identify the appropriate conservation measures.



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- If approved, construction-related activities must begin within 14 days of survey completion. If contractors fail to begin construction-related activities within 14 days, or if activities begin but are delayed for more than 14 days, the qualified biologist must perform another survey. Construction cannot recommence until authorized.
- Additionally, all Caltrans' standard construction Best Management Practices (BMPs), according to Caltrans' Standard Specifications, will be implemented in the project contract to minimize potential impacts to/from erosion/sedimentation, dust, hazardous waste spills, etc.

Permits –

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) 1602 Lake & Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Water Discharge Requirement (WDR).